[18.]

A Brief

RELATION

Of The

MARCH

Of the Imperial Army *under the Command of Count* Lesly : *The Taking of the Town of* Esseck, *and Setting Fire to the Bridge, And the Consternation of the* Infidels *upon That Action.*

COunt *Lesly*, in pursuance of the Orders of his Imperial Majesty, made a Review of his Army upon the Borders of *Croatia*, the Twenty sixth of *July*, at *Geszki-Sigeth* near the *Drave*; And so drew toward *Canisia*, where he set fire to the *Suburbs*; And several Villages and Castles, for Four Leagues about; And after that, March'd on, to Execute his Design upon the Bridge of *Esseck*: The Generals of the Militia of *Croatia* being in the mean time, to give the *Turks* a Diversion on the *Other* side; upon Agreement with the *Venetian Generals*. Upon the Third of *August* he Arriv'd at *Baboska*, with Ten Regiments of Good Men, and was Joyn'd upon the Fourth, by Three thousand *Croats*; Where he Caus'd his Cannon, Baggage, and Provisions to be Embarqu'd, that he might March with the more Expedition. He Departed from thence on the Fifth; And got within a League of the *Bridge* of *Esseck* upon the Fourteenth, without being taken Notice of, or Any sort of Alarum: He Dispos'd his Troups, at the same time, for the Attaque that he intended the Morning following, by break of day, which was Executed with Great Bravery, and Success, by Four thousand Men: Insomnch that they Routed Seven hundr'd *Janizaries*, that Interpos'd to Hinder them in their Enterprize; And having Gain'd the Point, they Charg'd Five hundred of them, that they found in the Marshes, and not One of them Escap'd. They began then to put Fire to the Bridge; And in an Instant put Twelve hundred Paces of it into a Flame; The rest of the Enemy that had fled, and

now Gather'd together under Three *Baſſas* to the Number of Three thouſand Men, were ſo ſcatter'd, that they fled toward *Belgrade*, and not Fifty in a Company. General *Leſly*, at the ſame Time, made himſelf Maſter of the Town of *Eſſeck*, and put all to the Sword that they found there: And after the Pillaging of the Place, blew up the Magazine, and the Arcenal with Great Quantities of Proviſion both for the War, and the Mouth, and laid it all in Aſhes.

The Conſternation of the People, and the Neighbouring Towns, under the *Ottoman* Power, was ſo Great, that it is not poſſible to Expreſs it. The Town of *Walpo* was likewiſe Taken and ſack'd: And 'tis Believ'd that the Army is now Marching toward the *Five Churches*, ſome Four Leagues from the Famous Town of *Zigeth*. The *Chriſtians* loſt not above Fifty Men in this Great Action; Among which, was the *Sieur Patroſhi*, *a Captain of Horſe*, who is much Lamented. The Prince of *Diedrichſtein* brought the News of This Great Victory to his *Imperial Majeſty* and Preſented him with *Five Colours* taken from the Enemy.

His *Imperial Majeſty* has alſo Advice, that the Duke of *Lorrain* had ſent a Detachment of ſome Thouſands of Men, under the Command of Collonel *Heuſler*, which he Caus'd to Paſs over his New Bridges upon the *Danube*, near *Gran*, to learn how it ſtood with the *Fortreſs* of *Novigrad*; Which they found Quitted by the Garriſon, the Magazines taking fire by Thunder, and Lightning, upon the ſame Day of the Action before *Gran*, and the taking of the Bridge of *Eſſeck*. This Accident Ruin'd a Great Part of the Town, with the Tower, and made a Great Breach in the Rampards, which they Reſolv'd to Repair, and to Garriſon That Poſt for a Paſſage to the Conqueſt that they Deſign'd the Reſt of this Campagne.

There are Letters that ſpeak Confidently of the taking of *Eſperies*, by General *Scultz*; But the Particulars not being come, we muſt wait for the Confirmation. It is Current however, That General *Scultz* having had Advice of the March of Six hundred *Janizaries* for the ſuccor of this Place, ſent Eight hundred Horſe to Intercept them, Who fell upon them, and gave them ſo Entire a Defeat, that ſcare *Twenty* of them 'ſcap'd, to Carry the News from *Agria*, whence they came.

From the Bruxell's Copy.

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